

more particularly the document references (entity declarations) to be included in the hub document.

PRIOR ART DOES NOT DISCLOSE OR SUGGEST ENTITY REFERENCES DETERMINED ACCORDING TO FILES IN A FILE-SYSTEM DIRECTORY

As discussed above, it is clear that the entity declarations (document references) in Hsu are pre-included in the configuration information 216 (and perhaps other model-specific configuration information) before the product manual is prepared (see the bottom of Figure 4). Furthermore, as mentioned in the above discussion of Hsu, in Hsu the author determines what documents are to be included as part of the product manual by editing the configuration/specification information.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify which document references are to be included in the hub document is responsive to the existence of their corresponding structured documents in the file-system directory. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has also been amended to clarify that the document directories are file-system directories. The rejection compares the previously recited feature of a "storage directory" to a database in Hsu. However, the claims now recite file-system directories. It is well known in the art that a file-system directory is neither an equivalent of nor a substitute for a database or a document database. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The dependent claims are deemed patentable due at least to their dependence from allowable independent claims. These claims are also patentable due to their recitation of independently distinguishing features. For example, claim 2 recites "an attachment file file-system directory for storing attachment files attached to the non-structured documents and entity declarations regarding the attachment files is set in advance". This feature is not taught or suggested by the prior art. Withdrawal of the rejection of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 49-55 are computer-readable storage claims depending from claims 1-4, 7, 13, and 25.

New claims 56-62 are apparatus claims corresponding to claims 1-4, 7, 13, and 25.

New claim 63 relates to another aspect of using a directory to prepare a hub document.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

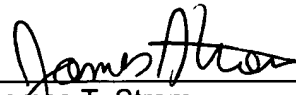
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1 JUNE 2004

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